cal data having been illegally supplied to South Africa which is an Indian Ocean littoral State, operating its navy in Waters which are vital to our defence interests; and

(b) whether the contract about HDW sub-marines barred the transfer of technical data to any other country; if so, effective action taken and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) According to available information, based on the result of the investigations carried out by the Regional Finance Office in Kiel, FRG, the processes initiated against IKL and HDW were dropped by the said office.

(b) Our contract with HDW bars the company from divulging the contents of the contract and any information/data acquired during the performance of the contract to any third party, including a Government. On enquiries made by Government, HDW reported that the papers transferred by them to South Africa did not include any classified or confidential information relating to the Indian submarines. The FRG Government have confirmed this position.

HDW submarine deal

3146. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the Press report which appeared in 'Sunday Mail' dated 13th September, 1987 captioned HDW agent winds up operations; if so, details thereof; and

(b) when did the Government receive information from West Germany about commission in submarine deal and what immediate steps were taken against the agents and agencies involved therein and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Government have seen the cited press report. The allegation came to Government's notice in February, 1987. Enquiries were undertaken by central investigative agencies whose reports, recently received, are being considred.

Military cases in criminal courts

3147. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently rejected the plea of Government that the criminal courts be kept off the Military cases; and

(b) if so, whether necessary action has been taken against the officers who had tried to supersede the judgement of the civil courts and who had committeed offences under certain section of IPC for which the Supreme Court gave the said verdict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Defence deals

3148. DR. R. K. PODDAR:

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-defence personnel including defence civilians engaged in arms deals or employed by arms dealers; and

(b) the number of defence deals which were negotiated through these ex-defence employees civilian and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Commercial negotiations for the acquisition of weapons and systems for the Armed Forces are carried out directly